

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 EB-08 COME-00 /058 W  
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P 221502Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4197  
NSC WHITE HOUSE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN, EG  
SUBJECT: ROSE EL YOUSSEF CHANGES

1. ALL PAPERS OF APRIL 22 FRONT-PAGED NEW CHANGES IN ROSE EL YOUSSEF'S EDITORIAL BOARD. MORSI EL-SHAFIE, ONE OF THE THREE EDITORS-IN-CHIEF OF AL MUSSAWAR, IS NOW BOARD CHAIRMAN OF ROSE EL YOUSSEF PUBLISHING HOUSE. ABDEL AZIZ KHAMIS HAS BECOME MEMBER OF THE HOUSE'S MANAGEMENT BOARD AND MANAGING EDITOR OF BOTH ROSE AND SABBAB EL KHEIR, THE TWO WEEKLIES PUBLISHED BY THE HOUSE. THE BOARD INCLUDES LOUIS GRACE, WHO MAINTAINS HIS POST AS GOVERNMENT DELEGATE AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE HOUSE, PHYSICIAN/WRITER DR. MOSTAPHA MAHMOUD; ARTIST/WRITER HASSAN FOUAD, EDITOR OF SABBAB EL KHEIR, AND ART ADVISOR GAMAL KAMEL.

2. BEFORE JULY 23, 1952 REVOLUTION, SHAFIE WAS MANAGING EDITOR OF WAFDIST DAILY AL-MISRI. WHEN THE NEWSPAPER DISCONTINUED IN 1954, SHAFIE BECAME MANAGING EDITOR OF AL MUSSAWAR, THEN EARLY THIS YEAR WAS PROMOTED TO CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND BOARD MEMBER  
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OF DAR EL HILAL PUBLISHING HOUSE, (WHICH PRODUCES AL MUSSAWAR).

3. A COLLEAGUE OF SHAFIE'S AT AL MISRI WAS KHAMIS WHO WAS ACCUSED WITH SADAT, BEFORE THE 1952 REVOLUTION, OF PLOTTING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRO-BRITISH MINISTER AMIN OSMAN. PRESIDENT SADAT

AND KHAMIS WERE ALSO COLLEAGUES AT DAR AL-TAHRIR WHICH PRODUCES MORNING AL-GOMHOURIYA AND EVENING AL-MESSA. IN 1965 KHAMSI WAS JAILED BUT WAS RELEASED WHEN PRESIDENT SADAT STAGED HIS "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION" IN MAY 1971. KHAMIS (AGE 49) WAS AFRICAN AFFAIRS EDITOR IN DAR AKHBAR EL YOM, AND SERVED FOR SOME TIME AS PRESS ADVISOR IN SOMALIA, BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA.

4. SHAFIE (AGE 55) TAKES PLACE AT ROSE EL YOUSSEF OF ABDEL RAHMAN SHARKWAI, APPOINTED THIS WEEK BOTH SECRETARY GENERAL (MINISTERIAL RANK) OF THE GOVERNMENT AFFILIATED SUPREME COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND LETTERS, AND REGULAR COLUMNIST IN AL AHRAH PUBLISHING HOUSE.

5. ALSO THIS WEEK, NEWSPAPERS REPORTED NEW PRESS LAW MAY BE ENACTED BY FIRST WEEK OF MAY. REPORTEDLY, THE NEW LAW ( AS PRESENTLY DRAFTED) WILL LIMIT ISSUANCE OF PRESS PUBLICATIONS TO "LEGITIMATE PARTIES, UNIONS AND SYNDICATES," MAINTAINS THE PRESENT PUBLICATIONS, AND ASCERTAINS "THEIR OWNERSHIP BY THE PEOPLE THROUGH THE SUPREME PRESS COUNCIL" WHOSE MEMBERSHIP WILL BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL POWERS, A NUMBER OF OPINION LEADERS, HEADS OF UNIONS AND SYNDICATES, AND A DEPUTY PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER.

6. COMMENT: BOTH SHAFIE AND KHAMIS ARE REPUTED TO BE STRONGLY ANTI-COMMUNIST. NEITHER IS KNOWN AS LEADING JOURNALIST, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OR EVEN (LIKE SHARKAWI) AS NOVELIST AND SCREENWRITERS OF RENOWN. APPEARS THEIR APPOINTMENTS TO TOP LEVEL OF PUBLISHING HOUSE IS INTENDED BY GOE AS STEP TO CONTROL MARXISTS AT ROSE. FOLLOWING RECENT PERSONNEL CHANGES AT LEFTIST MONTHLY AL TALIS, SECOND SHOE HAS DROPPED AND ALL OUTLETS FOR LEFTISTS ARE NOW UNDER CENTRIST OR RIGHTIST LEADERSHIP. REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER SHAFIE WILL BE ABLE RESHAPE CHARACTER OF MAGAZINE, WHICH HAS ENJOYED GOOD CIRCULATION PARTICULARLY AMONG EGYPTIAN INTELLECTUALS BECAUSE OF AGGRESSIVE, IF IRRESPONSIBLE, STYLE OF OPPOSITION. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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